PRICES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS: Single copies, \$2.50 per year

## COMMUNICATIONS.

The Lasting Benefits of Poetry. BY GEO. B. VASHON.

The world of intellect, like the physical one which we inhabit, is marked by great diversities of altitude. Here and there, from its common level, tower up vast elevations of mental excellence in the domains of philosophy, statesmanship, and military prowess. Here and there too, arise others, blessed with a more tropical warmth, clad in vesture of a more luxuriant green, kissed on their summits by a ceeding glory, by a more gorgeous sky.

True, those elevations do not present their swelling surfaces as the treasure houses whence are to be derived the materials for the building up of states, for the construction of navies, for the torging of the sword, the anvil, and the plough-share; but, still their summits point heavenward, and are serviceable in dissipating the lightning-clouds of error and of crime. Theirs, also, is the region of the elder world. where the fairies still linger, and where the baleful, the beneficent entities of the imaginative universe, dwell invisibly, until the poet, by means of his far-reaching sight, apprehends them, and, by the power of his magic, renders indebted for whatever of excellence and greatthem apparent unto all.

It is not, therefore, a matter of wonder, that men delight, at times, to abandon the various walks of human activity, and lose themselves in wrapt contemplation, upon the lofty and genial heights of song; that they readily re cognize poetry as a blessing, as an important instrumentality in the development of human destiny : that, in fine, they are willing to bail the poet as a benefactor, and acknowledge him | benefits of a truly national, and truly demo-

Great poets are, indeed, great benefactors. And their kindly offices are superior to those of all other laborers in the cause of social progress, in this particular-that they are as imperishable in their nature, and, consequently, in their efficacy, as in their effects. Zeuxis, more civilized while gazing in ran from heaven? Where the Venus Anadyo- in the South may be setdown as its chief source mene? Where the Prometheus, "chained to of weakness. In the former, they kindled and theus still writhes defiantly beneath the tor- upon our altars, during the dark days of our tures of the inexorable Zeus-not, however, upon the canvas of the painter, but in the majestic words of the Attic dramatist

The world now feels itself blest in inheriting the pictures of Raphael, Guido, and Titian. And yet, the day must come when the Genius of Painting will offer as a legacy to the future. only the names of those, her gifted children. Their works will have perished; and the Italian of that inevitable time will only possess, as the evidences of the former splendor of his country in the domain of art, the poems of Dante, that govern them. No people can long remain Petrarch and Tasso.

erning powers are beyond the reach of the The sculptors of antiquity, also, formed the minds of their countrymen to a love of all that was great and ennobling, as they wrought out rule. At least, this is the theory. Without otherwise, important elements in the structure their God-like conceptions in Pentelican or Parian stone. And yet, we of the nineteenth century scarcely recognize in the disfigured which circumstances they soon become the torsoes which are dug up from the rubbish of Rome, of Athens, of some long-buried Pompeii, the Venuses, Dianas and Minervas which exercised such harmonizing influences upon the ages that produced them.

Doubless, too, all the great events of history. even the most remote, have had a decided effect upon the civilization of the present day; for, eminently rational is the belief, that the ages are bound together in one continuous chain, and, that the successsful effort of any generation is the gain of every succeeding one. Yet, wherein were we profited by the thunderings trants and demagogues to beware how they the varied classes of its population equal priviof Agamemnon against the walls of Troy? tamper with the rights of a free people. They leges before the law, and in the Government. Philosophy, perhaps, would attempt in vain joint to the hand-writing upon the walls of the solution of this question; but would it be equally unsuccessful in giving a clear account | Jpharsin" of all sham and hypocrisy. of the results attributable to the Iliad? No! For the song of Achilles' wrath shows itself as potent now, in arousing the enthusiasm of less the patrons of the liberal arts and useful the classical student, as it was when the semi- enterprises. They are the nurseries of the colbarbarous Greek hung with delight upon the lege and the feeders of the university. They melodious utterances of the blind old rhapsodist | carry light and science, and law and order and of Chios.

And thus, ever, do the poetic inspirations which have wrought out one civilization, live on to sustain and strengthen each succeeding places are made to rejoice, and to bud and blosof its predecessor,-heir, not only to the relatively barren results of its developments but The sow the seeds of knowledge broadcast also to the life-giving cause of them, - to the -" words which bear the spirits of great deeds,

In turning, for a moment, from considering the influence exercised by the poet, to a conception of himself, we shall find much that mot sacred legacy we can bequeath to our may prove matter for wonder, -much, too, that thidren. will speak but poorly for the gratitude of the world. Let uppose, that a great poet is case their existence springs from an innate neabout to be yoru. We should deem, that the coming of this literary Messiah would be heralded by some unmistakable premonition. Yet, no Delphian oracle announces this event ; hearthstone, in the chamber of his nativity. a favorite of Apollo. At length, having at he fruitful field. tained to his full intellectual stature, he touches They are, when administered in their true son in point of numbers in this State: would his harp. But how seldom do his contempo-pirit, the levelers of all caste and odious dis- we not, then, endanger our lives by opposition for unhonored; at times-worse even than of race, condition, or color. They know no we in Kentucky enjoy any of those muchthat—he is persecuted.

called to encounter the sneers of a Bavius, the and the rich man's son must toil side by side with them, and admit, nay, affirm, that the unblushing thefts of a Bathyllus; like Dante for the honors they confer. The spirit of supbe cut off from all the sweet influences of ne posed superiority on account of worldly wealth, history. Hemmed in on every side by those tive land : like Shakespeare, be left to the se ciety of theatrical call-boys and scene-shifters and, lastly, like Milton, he may become, in l sightless old age, a mark for courtly satire at party animosity. Still more than this. Aft he has done with life, and the grave-clods ha settled upon his bosom,-after men have knowledged, that an angel has been amo them unawares, even then, he is not suffer to rest in peace. Thanks to the laborious searches of Wolfe, Heyne and others, Hor has become a myth; and, only a few years a literary criticism was burrowing among shr of evidence picked up in the neighborhood Stratford-upon-Avon, in order to rob Shall peare of "his blushing honors," and tran them to the already well-laden brows of Bo and of Raleigh. Truly, man is grateful suffering poor. wards his benefactors!



WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1870.

VOL. I.-NO. 10.}

its dreary pilgrimage to the tomb. Surely, in

the world's liturgy, in its outpouring of thanks

its highest utterances of gratitude is due to

State Educational Systems.

BY REV. JOHN OGDEN, Pres't Fisk University.

The history of common schools in those

States. Their great popularity is not the least

among the evalues of their excellence. To

their silent, genial, vet powerful influence,

prosperity, which are the acknowledged char-

of free schools to all the children of those

States-at least, all the white ones-and when

this last distinction shall have ceased, as cease

it must, sooner or later, and in all the States

too, then we may begin to experience the full

cratic system of education. There will be open-

ed up all the channels of industry, enterprise,

in influence, and will thus represent the real

Common free schools breathe into the hearts

They constituted the chief sources of strength

bond of sympathy based upon intelligence and

never surpassed, nor perhaps ever equalled by

any in the world. The annals of history no-

These schools are emphatically the instru-

ments for the elevation of the people to a level

free where the political institutions or the gov-

These schools unbar the door to universal

knowledge and universal power. They are the

colleges for the million, the nurseries of patri-

cause of popular liberty. They are the media

through which they rise, the rock on which

they stand, when they assert the Divine pre-

right of self-government. They stand guard

These institutions are the grand conservators

of knowledge to the people; and they are no

and o the palace of the rich. Under their be-

ilizes of our otherwise half-savage humanity.

ove the land, which germinate and ripen into

higier institutions of learning-a harvest of

intelectual wealth for the elevation of the peo-

ple They are the priceless inheritance from

outfathers, and, aside from our religion, the

They are these, and all of these, and more, be-

coulty in the Constitution of our Government.

Thy are founded upon the eternal rock of truth

at justice. They acknowledge the universal

ruled, instead of the ruling masses.

where furnish us a parallel.

wealth of our national domain.

tion conferred in His gift of a great poet.

It is well for the world, that the beneficent personality. Otherwise, the neglect of him would involve the utter destruction of the dearinfluence will continue, as long as the great ennobling motives, -as long as there is man and offer to colored people.

hood to be strengthened in the performance of heroic deeds, -as long as there is old age to be cheered and sustained upon what would else be

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 7, 1870.

BY GEORGE RICE.

for manifold and abounding blessings, one of To the Editor of the New Era:

the All-Father for the immeasurable benefac- than the substance of fact is yet America's plenty, we can bear it now. boasted freedom. And as the scales of justice brighter sun, and overarched, in all their ex- The Relation of Colored Schools to gins to fully comprehend that the negro is a sceptre is swayed from the portal of each of functions made the strong tower of legalized States where their adoption is most general, is trating to the interior must be stopped. By include the sacrifice of our manhood, and it people of the nation. the best commentary upon their character. To the ballot? No. By the unanimous protest will never be required. It is certain, we canwrite this history would be to write the history of education and general progress in those recount their advantages would require more time, and space than can be given here. To Castle Garden to close its doors against Irish- ceased to exist, and we, by their assistance, raised in imprecation against this "torrent of perance, humanity and freedom demand. more than to any other cause, are these States Paganism," and with the hand of violence ness they possess. The enterprise, energy, and ready to sweep it back.

This question promises to test still further acteristics of the North, are mainly owing to the principles of the Republic. The Chinaman the fact, that these States offer the advantages like the negro, is a patient sufferer; and America has doubtless learned ere this that such races are difficult to exterminate. Their lives possess a sort of tenacity that enables them to greatly ignore class persecution in the hopeful view the future holds out to them. It is plain that large fields of action necessarily require corresponding powers of development; and the main proof of America's completeness wealth and natural prosperity, to all classes will lie in her willingness to receive, and her alike. These resources will become boundless ability to mould and assimilate, her mosaic population.

In view of the vast tracts of undeveloped land now lying idle, it is evident that the great Apelles, and Parrhasius may have wielded and minds of the people, the spirit of liberty need of America is more labor. The question their pencils with such gifted energy that na- and independence. They are truly democratic. of overpopulation is one that will solve itself; ture upon their life-like creations. But where to the North, in the recent contest between the developing powers, immigration, in accordance now are the mimic grapes that allured the birds | two sections of our country; and their absence | with the natural laws that govern all political economy, will cease. The principles of nature are self-adjusting. The balance hangs now bethe cold rocks of Mount Caucasus?" Prome- kept alive the fires of liberty, that burned low tween China and America. The western end is weighted down with the millions of a counrepublic. In the latter there was wanting that try overburdened with humanity, while the eastern, from its very lightness, kicks the beam. virtue. In the former, they furnished an army, The balance must hang even. The laws of supwhich for intelligence, bravery and unflinching ply and demand will, as a matter of course, devotion to the cause of popular liberty, was regulate emigration.

This is a question that will solve itself. But what promises to test American institutions is, not the quantity or quality of emigration, but rather our ability to mould, educate, and adapt these mixed masses to the free principles of our with the political institutions of the country American Government. When we look forward to an entire settlement of the habitable portions of this continent, to the vast population its resources will require, and remember masses. In our form of Government the masses | that they have all to become, either directly or these schools the ruling masses must, of neces- of the republic, then, in the light of this consity, remain in comparative ignorance, under sideration, it seems that our peculiar form of government is as yet nothing more nor less than a well-advanced theory. The principles of equality to all men on which the declaration of Independence was based, have yet to be proven a fact. To close the doors against the otism, and the pioneers of progress. They are immigration, or civil and political equality of the people's pledge of unshaken fidelity to the any particular race, is to remove the foundations upon which the republic stands. The representative American has vet to be born : and it is unreasonable to believe, that he wil be rogative of a free and enlightened nation—the either Yankee, Negro, Chinaman, or any one particular race inhabiting this continent. The around the battlements of freedom, and warn nation must, in justice to its principles, give all

With this point attained, we reach at once right and justice-the "Mene, Mene, Tekel, the true principles of the Government; but there still remains a great barrier to the completeness of the Republic. The lines of social distinction must be removed. This is no question for politicians, and perhaps not for the present. But it is a problem that the future must inevitably solve. The "squeamishness" of the "superior race" may stave it off for prosperity to the humblest cottage of the poor some time. But as the country approaches nearer and nearer to the maturity of perfect nigninfluence the wilderness and the solitary development, as the races become more and more harmonized, the result must naturally be one. Thus, ever, is each generation the heir somwith abundance. They are the great civ- the complete removal of all social distinctions as well as political disabilities.

Our Position in Kentucky.

BY M. W. TAYLOR. The fifteenth amendment, by its ratification brings to the political surface questions previously unknown to us as a people, such as require the gravest consideration of everyone, no matter how obscure a position he may have heretofore occupied. But the main question is, where shall we be counted? The answer at once is made: With the party that has freed, clothed, educated, a d enfranchised us. But betherhood of all mankind. They recognize no we are not a unit in this response. There are Ass. They are like the dew and the rain, this: We are poor: we have neither land not As he lies in his infant cradle, no swarm of hey distill their blessings alike upon the bar- money, and consequently must agree politically bees, by alighting upon his lips, proclaims him in and the fertile soil, upon the wilderness and with those who have, in order to obtain them. Again they say: We make no sort of compariraries arrest their busy course, in order to lis-finctions on account of wealth and social posi- to them? I am not disposed to ignore facts, nor ten to his tunings! Nay, rather, he is uncared tion. They should recognize none on account to have it understood by the outside world that nobility but the nobility of mind: and they boasted privileges which have caused America Like Homer, he may be compelled to be seek no prerogative, but to invest it with the to be denominated "the land of the free and birth or position, ever ready to encroach upon who are free and rejoice in their freedom, with the rights of others, is arrested here and neu- their statutes purged of every foul blot of slavery, tralized by the test of mind with mind, and West Virginia, Tennessee, and Mississippi have disarmed by the strong common sense of public accepted the order of the day, thus opening the opinion. Men are taught from childhood to avenues of wealth and honor to all their citiregard one another as the common and coequal | zens, and thereby commanding the respect and inheritors of the same natural rights and privi- admiration of the world. Meanwhile, these may not aspire. They admit of no such senti- peration can produce.

might afford both harvests and homes for the and unrequited toil may answer. To stay friends of republican government are to fight away from the polls, and not vote at all would over again in the face of the bowie knife and longing to this District, came in from Cam- his best, accepts the situation now, and boldly for Jesus, our toil becomes our pleasure.

These schools are just what are needed now reassert upon better authority, that we are both the pistol the battle of national authority and bridge, headed by "Clary's Cornet Band" and influence of the poet is not dependent upon his to come in to correct false opinions, to heal the moral and physical cowards. And in this Congressional reconstruction, let the result be under the Marshalship of Mr. John J. Fatal, wounds of slavery and war, and to lift the dilemma we again reach the question: what final and conclusive. people out of the ruts of wicked and hurtful shall we do? Why, even as it has been done Let every department of the State govern- Association." Although frequent attempts est interests of the human race. As it is, that prejudices. It shall, therefore, be our object, elsewhere. Let us cast our lot with the thirty-ment, legislative and judicial, be involved in were made to spread dissension among the peoin a series of articles, to show their peculiar five thousand republicans in the State; let us the struggle, so that the triumph of Republi- ple by two or three politicians, upon the whole, pulse of humanity continues to beat,—as long adaptability to our want, and especially to forget our own safety for the safety of the peoas there is youth to be aroused to action by point out some of the advantages they possess ple, that must directly take our places, but sence of men in the courts to administer fairly full of gratitude to our friends in the National never our dishonor and ignorance. If we must and impartially the laws of the State, or the Congress were read, and at the time when they I might continue this, but the dimensions of a obtain bread at the sacrifice of principle, hon- laws of Congress for the protection of the were about to be put to the meeting, the leader or, education, interest and gratitude, let us rights of citizenship. The Completeness of the Republic. scorn it and perish, thus proving to the world In conclusion, we beg honorable Senators to acknowledged the fact that their's was a meetthat we would live as freemen, or like them, we reflect upon the geographical and moral relawould die. Starvation as freemen is not worse tion Georgia holds to the Gulf States. If she zens of the District, which composed it, were as fast as we advance toward civil equality, than starvation as slaves. Many of us bore it can be saved to the cause of good government,

slowly balance for the negro, as America be- in Kentucky, and we rejoice to know that his and anti-Republican reaction, and her judicial man, prejudice must find another victim, and our domicils. Bread and pork are in as great wrong, her position and influence will be po- Two, Three, Six, and Nine of Boston; the City who more suitable than "Wo Lee and his kins- demand as heretofore, and we are graduates in tential for evil. folk?" The "vast horde of Asiatic scum" their cultivation. Therefore, let us carry out Respectfully, in behalf of the National Exeof America's millions? No. The spirit of not listen to the cry of friendship from those Ireland seems not content to rule the main sea- who oppose every act of justice in our favor. port of the Atlantic coast, but it must stretch | and who refuse our testimony in courts, even its riotous hands from the Battery to the Pa- though it be borne upon the expiring breath cific's golden gate. All Ireland would howl were of a dying man, until such opposition has men; yet Ireland stands to-day with her voice have every right which industry, virtue, tem-HARDINSBURG, Ky., March 8, 1870.

> Petition in Behalf of Justice in Georgia.

To the Honorable the Senate of the United States If the consequences involved in the readmis sion of Georgia into the Union were of a merely party or personal character, or if these consequences, however grave, were temporary in their effects, your petitioners would not deem it a daty to intrude their views upon your honorable body : but, unfortunately, the evils which have been so long confronted in Georgia are not matters of passing excitement affecting simply personal or party interests. For these reasons it has seemed to your petitioners appropriate that we should seek to contribute from a dispassionate and personally disinterested source information and suggestions which may prove serviceable in arriving at a just decision upon the issues in controversy. have reason to believe that personal feeling, added to the spirit of faction, is placing in jeopardy the cause of social order and good government in Georgia, and that this spirit of faction is taken advantage of by the common enemy of Republicasism and the Government to establish a permanent foothold of power in the Empire State of the South. Deeply as we deplore the existence of this personal element lever by which an irreparable injury will be inflicted by the American Congress upon a

helpless and loyal population. After years of trial and suffering the power of the great State of Georgia, legislative, representative, executive, and judicial, has at last passed under the control of the loyal party. With the past bitter but valuable experience to enlighten and guide them, with the present secure, the future is clear and certain. The simple question is, Shall that power be wrested from them and the future of Republican progress and prosperity blighted? The undersigned have taken information in regard to the feelings and wishes of their friends in Georgia. There is but one voice on this subject. The Government must either recognize the loyal Legislature of the State and allow it the opportunity of putting Republican principles into effective, legal, and permanent force in Georgia, or if a new election is ordered the freedom of elections must be adequately protected by national authority. There is no power in the State for the protection of life, person, or pro perty. As proof of this we will cite a few examples. In the city of Savannah during the late Presidential election the approaches to that city were guarded and picketed by the same force which once tried to hold them against General Sherman. This armed force afterward went into the city and cut down and dragged through the streets a flag bearing the likeness of General Grant.

In the city of Augusta the same lawlessness shot down at the polls; and the sheriff, for attempting to maintain order, was assassinated in cold blood. In counties and districts where large Republican majorities existed, few, if any, votes were cast for General Grant. The necessity for adequate protection is therefore manifest if a new election is ordered. And the election should embrace all the issues necessary to a thorough reconstruction of the State in its judicial as well as in its legislative departments. To this feature of the controversy we most respectfully invite your special and earnest attention. It is well known that the Republican party of Georgia, following the example of the human and civilized instincts of the North, extended to heir neighbors and friends the right hand of 1 rgiveness. We all know with what apparent incerity and contrition this advance was met b the other side. The newly enfranchised freeuman joined in the work of reconciliation. Under this generous confidence the enemies of the Government and the Congres no intimation of destiny is thundered from the g, no serf, no master, no slave, no privileged some who dissent. They speak in language like sional policy obtained control of the legislative and judicial departments of the State. The perfidious treachery with which they rewarded the confiding magnanimity of the loval men in the legislative department is well known. But the insidious, unseen, and silent use to which the judicial power has been perverted is not known so widely as it should be.

Now, the significant feature of the amendment to the Georgia bill adopted by the House is that it confirms these judicial appointments in the hands of the men who now hold them. his bread from city to city: like Virgil, b insignia of true royalty. The poor man's son the home of the brave." Therefore, I agree This great power is placed by the amendment, even under a new election, beyond the reach either of a loval Legislature or of the Executive. The legislative fraud has been corrected, because of the public character of legislative issues. These became matters of noteriety, as in this hour of trouble. in the case of the expulsion of the colored members. The popular mind seizes upon and appreciates them. Judicial usurpations and wrong, however, are more dangerous and more fatal, because of this violent and insidious naleges. They forever forbid the establishment abominable black laws, the dear relics of other ture. The fountain and source of justice beof institutions of learning for the rich, from days, are cherished and adhered to in our State comes corrupted, the very names and forms of which the poor are excluded, or to which they with that persistent tenacity which only desment as "schools for the rich, schools for the But returning to the question. Can we exprivileged classes "-schools to pamper the pect to obtain land or money by adherence to judge or magistrate. We desire, therefore, in out on any line" to win. We held a meeting vote he cast against the report of the fifteenth this country a million lives, and suffering and been negro slavery? Or, what assurance for represent, that the action of Congress in this treasure untold. But for this same spirit, to- our lives will affiliation with them give? Eighty matter may be thorough. If the loyal Legisladay the untilled fields, the tenantless houses fears of misery, and degradation, ignorance, ture of Georgia is to be disbanded, and if the

surrounding communities. If she is surren-

GEORGE T. DOWNING, Chairman. FREDERICK G. BARBADOES, Secretary.

Ethnological.

BY WILLIAM JAMES.

and of the sexes. "He created the beast of valued friends of our race. the field, the fowl of the air, the fish of the sea" a question of importance how far we allow the of Boston." word of God to govern our own theories, and This new era to the black man places him or of that truth it reveals, and no vicious error would remain to mar human relations.

because he has a deformity, and is not so well be a thing of the past. Every man now must shaped as those more favored? If there is an figure for himself. in Georgia, we trust it will not be made the appeal made by reason to reason, you are convinced that he who thus addresses you is your fellow-man, of whatever color or shape he may be. Let there be only a reciprocity of the understanding, and a recognition of man's right in nature and law, and we shall at once accept the higher principles of equality and human rights in relation to the races. Our theories may be questions of religion, ethics, ethnology, or science-for nature still

research of the most acute philosopher. The son, produced a superficial impression only. the laws of nature are in their adjustment pro- To the Antiquarians however, whose active and root of their composition, must be taught by sensations, and keeps our minds refreshed by the inventor, which is God. If we reject that pleasant retrospect as well as prospect, is due which we cannot resolve by reason, then the in no slight measure, some of this under curborn-blind could not believe in light, color, or rent life. I must at some time give your readform, and the deaf, in sound. Nevertheless, they ers a description of them and their labors. have ideas of their existence.

Who can give a demonstration of the solar. trembling Nebulæ? the true root and laws of the magnet, the winds, and the tide? What of motion? The varieties in the texture, and tigation as that sleeping life-germ couched in cence. the ova, ere it take action to connect itself with the elements of physical, and intellectual life. prevailed. Colored citizens were deliberately the absence of tangible proof, to depart from some of us might feel our respect for that ex-

> LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE. Colored Citizens of the 4th Cong. Dist. of Massachusetts.

To the Editor of the New Era :

whence it is derived.

the Virginia Bill.

When the telegram announced the result of the unexpected but deserved reward for loyalty the vote to us, in Boston, there were a few of to human rights. our colored citizens who were formerly from, what to them in reality was the chattel land. and felt aggrieved and fearfully alarmed at the

very few of our colored friends, a few others always very near "number one." took it upon themselves to disabuse the public complaint and trouble was in consequence of itself becomes a mockery. The evil is as per- a mistake in being too much in a hurry, and rot. Yes, General Logan's virtue in ferreting

\$2.50 a year in advance 5 Copies for \$10.

President of the "Cambridge (colored) Land of the "censure party" stepped forward and ing of a few, and that the twelve colored citinot the twelve hundred colored voters of this Based more upon the emptiness of theory in other days, and for the sake of a future of her influence will be beneficial upon all the District, and consequently could not speak and road will be found dangerous traps. Said an act for them; that being done, satisfaction incumbent of a Government office a few days But there is no need of this. Labor is king dered to the power of revolutionary violence seemed to reign triumphant, and the meeting ago, "What does Wilson want to go to West

The 4th District is made up of Wards One. of Cambridge, Chelsea, North Chelsea and Winthrop; and there are not five colored men sweeping upon our western shores and pene- faithfully the terms of every contract, but never cutive Committee, representing the colored in the whole District who are not Republicans. In regard to the feelings of our people here on all national issues, no colored man is willing to do anything to assist political enemies. There is not one in our city of any intelligence whatever, but who openly and uncompromisingly endorses the Hon. Charles Sumaer, (New Eng- understand, was promised it at Lincoln's accesland's own Senator.) as the great vindicator of What is the prime color of the human skin? impartial justice, and the champion of the great There must be a line of demarkation between national reformation in the nineteenth century : man and the beast of the field, as there were also our representative in Congress, Hon. distinct epochs in the creation of the species, Samuel Hooper, as one of the truest and most

It is the intention of the colored Bostonians -male and female created he them. He cre- to celebrate the "Fifteenth Amendment to the ated man distinctly in his own image (which Constitution." as soon as President Grant issues means intellectually) first the man then the wo- the proclamation, in a manner not to be surman. The mode of his creating is specifically passed by the people of any other section of defined. There is then a distinction which at the country. The "Old Cradle of Liberty"once destroys any link of relation between Faneuil Hall-will be rocked on that day as it man and any species of the animal ereation- was never rocked before, and the martial music, for he alone was created intellectually, with with the military and civic processions, the reason, like unto the Creator, and like him, booming of cannon, and grand festivities in immortal. Mankind therefore is a genuine and various parts of our city, will make it an occadistinct race, and in no way related to the sion never to be forgotten in the memories of brute creation, but is singularly Godlike. It is the present inhabitants of "ye ancient town

judgment? If we believe in its truth, we must an equal footing with all other men in this submit to be corrected by its precepts, and to country. As liberty, equality, and fraternity be bound under its authority. If we are honest, are not now limited to color or previous condiwe shall act by that correction willingly and tion, the great avenue to success is open, and faithfully, and not persist in a course which is the prosperous future depends on the proper at variance with enlightened reason : sentiment exertion of all the people to merit their share then would become uniform and the mind sus- in the general distribution of mental, physical, ceptible of being disciplined in the knowledge and moral business resources. It is the "good time come." We must improve it, if we do not wish to be left in the rear. Sympathy. Should we entertain prejudice to the man after this, for anybody on account of color, will

I am, with respect, yours, BENJ. T. ROBERTS. Boston, March 7, 1870.

Letter From Salem, Massachusetts. SALEM, MASS., March 12th, 1870.

To the Editor of the New Era: The quiet of this famous and classic locality would seem to indicate, that the concluding ceremonies of the Peabody funeral in the vicinreserves many of her secrets, even from the ity, imposing as at any of its stages, august terest of the race of color at heart. genius of the most accomplished student, and and solemn amid the fiercest storm of the seasynthesis of nature in first principles is not But we still live, much on the principle of still fully comprehended, or it would appear that water, and regard it as addition to our renown. found; but the mind being devoid of the true faithful research reproduces the old for new

A short time ago, we were interested to know that in daily use in our streets was a vehilunar, stellar lights, the Aurora Borealis, the cle used by Ferdinand and Isabella; but our hair-like light of the flying Comets, and the curiosity and surprise were soon cut short by an accurate Antiquary who showed the mistake. You may judge that we maintain our rewere the primary form of atoms? the first law puted character, when you know we ride to adjoining towns occasionally in Queen Elizabeth's physique of the human family are quite as oc- State Carriage, well preserved and with some cult to human reason, and as dark to inves- evidence internally of its original magnifi-

But we have something in the modern way, and at this time more desirable. Since the It has been the prevailing error in all ages, in disclosures respecting the sale of cadetships, faith and so determine that only to be true clusive and select institution somewhat modiwhich is demonstrable by sense, and reason: fied, and the honor of its benefits, somewhat so we have compiled the following texts of en- tarnished; yet, regarding its education as the quiry for the skeptic to study, at the same popular bountyf we desired its benefits. No time we affirm that there is not anything created steps were taken towards making a precedent. but has its profound law in the mechanics of However, we were surprised and gratified by the Universe of nature—whether human reason the announcement that General Butler had apcan understand it or not. The human mind pointed Charles Sumner Wilson to the cadetwithout divine revelation is but the bare bones ship of the 5th Massachusetts District, vacated of a mental skeleton, and except vitality is by desertion. The new appointee is third son thrown into it and it is fed by absolute truth. of Thomas and Rebecca Wilson, about 18 years will degenerate, such is the normal condition of of age and a member of our High School. His man. The machinery of the mind may be in- father was a seaman, not a native of the United flated with good or evil, truth or error. States, and at the time of his short and fatal either of which characterises the source from sickness, a member of the 55th Massachusetts regiment, Company F, which operated at the fall of Charleston, S. C. Of twelve of our sixteen able-bodied, he was not spared to re turn. Mrs. Wilson is a native of Ransom, Massachusetts. a townswoman of the lamented and eminent Horace Mann. With the limited edu-I perceive by a recent issue of the "New cation of the rural district, she has long been Era," that there appeared in your columns an known to our little circle as an intelligent woarticle hinting at a trouble among the colored | man, of dramatic taste and quality as a poetess. citizens of Boston, in consequence of some pre- Her deep interest in the Anti-Slavery movemature expressions in regard to the course of ment, together with the services of her husband the Hon. Samuel Hooper, in his first vote on as a soldier, renders the appointment of her son a gratifying testimony to the common people.

It resulted from the popularity he had gained among his schoolmates. He is of quite direct African descent, his scholarship and conduct idea of what they supposed was an obstacle making an excellent exhibit. We do not specuvery detrimental to the vital interest of our late as to his comfort, following his admission. race. They hurried a meeting along, and pass- Appointment of colored cadets will become ed resolutions censuring our representatives. matter of course in a short time. But his sucwhom they imagined had betrayed them, and cess in any case must be in a faithful applicaimploringly besought Mr. Sumner to save them | tien to master and acquire the peculiar education. We remind him that colored youth have Seeing this condition of things amongst the a habit of many times graduating first, and

Number nine of the "ERA" has an article in regard to the feelings of the large majority headed "Our Party," which alludes to its deof the colored voters in this District. All the fective Western elements. We have some East. too, and true as it is that we do not wish and certain misrepresentations, which emanated should not create divisions, the party, like an who dissented from the previous meeting, and fought as determinedly as ever he did, and men it was the largest and most enthusiastic gather- who brought more moral power to the battleing of colored voters, and others, ever conven- field in a single regiment than his whole divied in our city. Upwards of one hundred, be- sion. I find in John C. Breckinridge, who did

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

TRANSIENT ADVERTISING RATES.

RATES FOR YEARLY ADVERTISEMENTS.

sing square in this paper.

Any space less than ten lines is charged the rate of a full All advertisements occupying less than a quarter of a column are computed by the square.

Advertisements inserted for a less time than three months

are charged transient rates.

declares to the Ku-Klux of his State, he will be one of a sheriff's posse to go and arrest them. protest against such men would be too large for their souls. But we have some of that same tender-minded, delicately constitutioned ele-Point for?" It is difficult to imagine that a long experience on a leading editorial staff of Essex county would produce such a question. Yet, perhaps it is no more difficult than a counter query: What did you want to go to the C-n H-se for? A few words will explain. A Republican who got a Government office closely allied to the revenue, was rotated because of a failure to appreciate the Congressional nominee, General B. F. Butler. The gentleman, who is the present incumbent, we sion, but only received it two years ago. We trust young Mr. Wilson will derive as much from his education as the incumbent of the best customs office in this country, or we will petition for a revision of West Point, or indorse General Negley and abolish it altogether. To all of them, "Shoo flies do not disturb us now." Very respectfully yours.

FRANK H. FLETCHER. Letter From Greenville, N. C.

GREENVILLE, N. C. March 8th. 1870. To the Editor of the New Ea:

As this is indeed a "New Era" that has thrown its benignant beams across our pathway, cheering us as does the Oasis, the weary traveler in the Desert. I feel doubly glad to welcome your paper in its advocacy of our race. trusting that it may be a powerful agency in expanding and enlightening the minds of many of those who have wished, but in vain, for some friendly publication that would give us reliable information regarding all that is being, or rying to be, done either for or against us people, in public, or private assemblages, in Legislative, or Congressional bodies. Now that the project has engaged the attention of the intelligent minds of a number of our citizens at the Capital of our Nation. I feel that we shall be much benefited by a faithful showing of what are the true sentiments of our representatives; and as we know of no better method of obtaining those sentiments than through the columns of a sheet devoted to the interests of our race, we earnestly desire to advance the interest of your paper in order that you may be better able to advance ours. For that purpose, we ask you to send to our address a few copies for circulation, and we shall endeavor to obtain a number of subscribers. that the seed sown through your instrumental ity may be harvested, bringing forth fruit that shall abundantly benefit all who have the in-

With many wishes for your success, I am, fraternaly yours, RAYMOND D. BICKNELL.

Tennessee State Convention of Colored Citi-

To the Editor of the New Era: The colored citizens of Tennessee held a State Convention, in Nashville, on the 21st, 22d, and 23d of February last. There were over one hundred delegates in attendance from forty-three counties. Abram Smith, Esq., of Nashville, was chosen temporary President of the Convention, and John M. Shelton appointed Secretary. Committees on credentials and permanent organization were appointed. During the absence of the committees the Convention was addressed by George Carter, Rev. Moses R. Johnston, Adam Young of Davidson, Dr. J. B. Young of Knox, C. M. Johnson of Sumner, Joseph Wilcox of Montgomery, and T. M. King of Hamilton. The report of the Committee on Credentials was adopted, and ordered to be made the roll of the Convention. The Committee on Permanent Organization made the following report : which was adopted :

J. B. Young, of Knox, President. Page Tyler, of Shelby; M. R. Johnston, of Davidson: H. Alexander, of Bradley, Vice Presidents.

John M. Shelton, of Davidson, and M. Yard

ley, of Knox, Secretaries.

Much important business was transacted by the Convention. The many wrongs that are being perpetrated daily upon the colored people in Tennessee were reported in their true light, and a committee of four was appointed to proceed to Washington and lay all the facts before the President and Congress of the United States, and ask for some redress. The committee consists of the following gentlemen, viz: J. B. Young, of Knox; W. T. Kennedy, of Shelby, Rev. Moses R. Johnston, of Davidson, and J. C. Davis, of Jefferson, who have gone to Washington, as directed, with affidavits and petitions. The Convention was a complete success, and many very able colored men, of which any State might be proud, were in attendance

> Letter From Leonardtown, Md. LEONARDTOWN, Md., March 5th, 1870.

To the Editor of the New Era: You can send me the great advocate of the black man's rights the "New Era." I would have subscribed before, but I have been very buisy teaching every day except Saturday, and then I would be holding meetings in other parts of the county. Now that my labors are over in the visiting line. I shall have more leisure to inform you how things are progressing educationally and politically. I will send you more subscribers in a few weeks. I have

informed Major Vanderlip to pay you \$2.50 for my subscription. Hoping to hear from you on any occasion, you may rest assured your communication will receive prompt attention. As the good work

has begun let us keep the ball moving. Send the "New Era," and I will spread its glad tidings among the Freedmen of my district. Hoping that you are well and that you may

ever remain so. I am yours for elevation,

JOHN CAJOY.

One day a gentleman found a little girl busy at the ironing table, smoothing the towels and spirit of intolerance, which has already cost that party whose key-note now is and ever has the name of the large constituency which we in regard to it, consisting, as per call, of those amendment. He denied rights to men who stockings. "Isn't it hard work for your little arms?" he asked. A look like sunshine came into her face, as she glanced toward her mother, who was rocking the baby. "It isn't hard work when I do it for mamma," she said softly. In like manner when love prompts us to work